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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Assistant Director for Operations

DATE: 9 May 1958

FROM : Chief, Foreign Documents Division, 00

SUBJECT: FDD Monthly Progress Report -- April 1958

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ADMINISTRATION

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1. The number of personnel charged against ceiling as of 30 April was [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED] retired on 30 April, the first FDD member to retire on a regular basis.

3. T/O changes have been submitted for the transfer of three Foreign Documents Officer GS-11 slots from the area branches to the [REDACTED] and of one GS-12 slot to the Washington office.

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4. Arrangements were made with [REDACTED] whereby the Mechanics Series of Referativnyy Zhurnal, [REDACTED] will be made available to the community.

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5. At the request of AD/CR, a proposal on machine translation presented by [REDACTED] was reviewed; rejection of the proposal was recommended.

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6. House Bill H. R. 11042, introduced by Representative Wayne L. Hays and concerned with the deposit of government publications in repository libraries throughout the country, was reviewed. As the result of discussions between the Office of General Counsel and members of the Hays staff, it was determined that translations were excluded from such deposit under the provision of the Bill referring to "cooperative" publications which require sale in order to be self-supporting.

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7. On 1 April Chief, FDD, attended a meeting at National Science Foundation to consider a proposal by [REDACTED] that the Current Digest of the Soviet Press be expanded to include scientific information. After Chief, FDD, outlined what is being done [REDACTED] indicated he would study the literature to determine if anything is left open for coverage by the Current Digest.

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25X1A 8. [REDACTED] were assigned to the DD/P on rotation basis.

25X1A 9. On 16 April [REDACTED] briefed Eastern Europe Branch personnel on OCI mission and functions.

10. The FDD Russian Conversation class with 26 students was completed on 17 April.

25X1A Three FDD linguists attended a Round Table meeting on African languages [REDACTED]

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STATSPEC 12. In order to meet budgetary limitations, translation service activity [REDACTED] has been reduced [REDACTED] percent for the balance of the fiscal year. 25X1A

OPERATIONS

25X1A 1. In company with [REDACTED] Legislative Counsel, and Mr. Paul Borel, AD/CR, Chief, FDD, on the request by OTS attended a hearing held by the House Appropriations Subcommittee for Department of Commerce funds to establish a clearing house for foreign scientific literature and to set up a translation program for Russian technical publications.

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2. FDD officers scrutinized, with [REDACTED] NSA, an NSA proposal to prepare a new Chinese dictionary by automatically photographing and carding every entry in all available Chinese-English and English-Chinese dictionaries. FDD indicated that it could not support the proposition because the Romanization method proposed is not one in current usage.

3. Reference to the CTS Index prevented 156 cases of duplication totaling 5,663 pages.

The issuance of the unclassified CTS appears to have generated calls for information and service from a number of offices outside the IAC.

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relative to coordination of Department of Interior translation work and cooperation with the CTS (Unclassified). Interior will take steps to effect liaison clearance for CTS operations.

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5. Chief, FDD, held a meeting with [REDACTED] NSA to discuss their translation problems and needs. Agreement was generally reached that their unclassified translation needs could easily be handled [REDACTED] on a reimbursable basis. A memorandum of agreement will be prepared by NSA.

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6. Since the Division has lost its only Albanian linguist by retirement, exploitation of Albanian has been transferred to [REDACTED]

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7. On 28 April a Special Projects Staff was established in the Eastern Europe Branch with the primary function of producing a current political survey of the area press and of handling RPB project material.

8. Commendations received in the Division included appreciation for expeditious treatment of a lengthy handwritten Russian document; for support of a finished intelligence report on brucellosis research in the USSR; for review and comments on an ORR report on railroad construction in Communist China.

9. Extra-CIA liaison during the month included supplying material for a revised Soviet Medical Institute Directory being prepared by NIH, furnishing USSR place-name information for an Air Force mapping project, and acquainting an ARPA analyst with source materials on USSR space research.

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10. Special linguistic service was furnished the DD/P in Arabic; Russian films were monitored for Graphic Register; and [REDACTED] escorted [REDACTED] to meetings of the Nuclear Congress at various US institutions.

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11. Outstanding reports:

FDD Summary 1742 -- Report on Labor in the USSR (3) (spells out actual changes in wage rates in 13 industries; points up problem faced by party by refusal of enterprise managers to hire secondary school graduates).

FDD Summary 1678 -- Soviet Agricultural Machinery- A Descriptive Catalog: Part I (all available information on producing plants, basic production, photographs, and specifications of agricultural machinery in operation up to 1957; historical data on development of such machinery in USSR).

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FDD Summary 1725 -- Provincial Cotton Production and Handicraft Industry Using Cotton in Communist China (narrows gap in raw information available to ORR analysts faced with lack of accounting for varying percentages of China's cotton production).

FDD Summary 1747 -- World Press Summary of International Communist Developments (71) ("An Example of the Return to Ideological Orthodoxy in East Germany" - illustrates intellectual ferment in East Germany; outgrowth of the Harich-Lukacs upheaval, pp 1-21).

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Enclosures:

1. Statistical Report on FDD Operations
2. Details of Personnel Actions

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